



VIRGINIA VETERANS SERVICES FOUNDATION

Report to the Board of Veterans Services

December 17, 2020

The Veterans Services Foundation (VSF) Board of Trustees held a virtual meeting on December 10, 2020.

The VSF Chairman welcomed everyone and began the meeting with a brief overview of current donation totals. Donations were down about \$30,000 compared to this time in 2019, but is hopeful the foundation can make up the difference with renewals of corporate donors and cultivation of new individual and corporate donors.

Cyndi Miracle of the Virginia Chamber of Commerce gave a great presentation on the Chamber's efforts in assisting veterans in obtaining employment and assisting employers with hiring veterans. She stressed that these efforts would not be as successful if not for the partnerships at VSF and DVS. VSF will be giving a presentation to the Chamber's Veterans Affairs and Military Industry Council at their next meeting to be scheduled in late January or February.

Commissioner Maxwell presented a synopsis of the services DVS has been providing during COVID-19. He noted that the Veteran Care Centers are operating as they have been since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis; they recently overcame an outbreak but are confident it is now under control. While service requests are down, Commissioner Maxwell expects them to go up when the eviction ban is lifted and the homeless veteran population increases. Commission Maxwell is looking forward to working with the Foundation to meet the needs of Virginia veterans and their families as we face many uncertainties of the future.

Secretary Hopkins gave remarks to include the legislative initiatives that will be carried forward into the 2021 General Assembly Session. They will focus on four main areas; transition services, expanding MMAC capabilities, giving the TAG greater authority over DMA property, and the state active duty health care proposal for the DMA.

The board also received an update on the Altria Grant status from Deputy Commissioner Annie Walker, a report from BVS by Chair Michael Dick and a report from JLC Chair Bill Ashton.

Ms. Robin Beres, Development Committee Chair, reported that the Committee has drafted a development plan for FY21 through the help of Executive Director Boughey's corporate donor research.

Senator Walter Stosch, Finance Committee Chair, reported that the Committee has not met since the last meeting but will meet between now and the March 2021 meeting.

Mr. Jack Lanier, Procedures and Policies (P&P) Chair reported that the P&P Committee met to take care of several technical changes in the Joint Policies. The Committee has deferred updating the Goals and Objectives for FY21 to the March 2021 meeting.

The next Veterans Services Foundation Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2021 at a time and place to be determined.

Respectfully Submitted,
John Lesinski
Chairman
Veterans Services Foundation